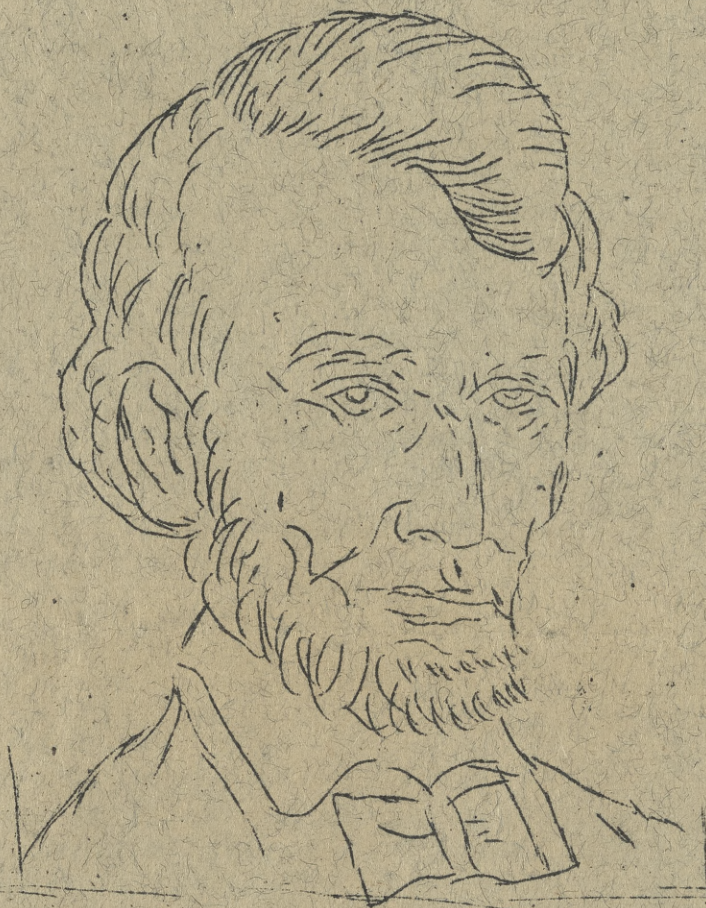


CAHUILLA NEWS LETTER

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February 5, 1957

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Let us have faith that
right makes might; and in
that faith let us to the
end, dare to do our duty
as we understand it.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

CAHUILLA TOWN MEETING
March 10, 1957

Cactus Acres

Sunday Morning, 11 A.M.

Program

1. Report of past year.
2. Discussion: Can our road problems be solved by attempting to seek aid from Riverside County?
3. What are the possibilities for a water system?
4. Do we want to ask the Land Office for land for a "Meeting Place" for the community?
5. Election of "Cahuilla Improvement Committee Members."

Cahuilla Town Meetings are an unfailing pleasure because it is good to meet the friends one sees all too seldom. There is always a great outpouring of good will and understanding. Cahuillans are able to air their differences as friends and neighbors. For this the community may be exceedingly proud. Whatever the decision of the meeting, the road has improved and will continue to do so. Do you know that ALL the road money is donated without solicitation? We rapidly build toward better appearance, improved sanitation and safety. This means greater value for the whole section, "Help your neighbor if he needs help, but respect his privacy and leisure as he respects yours." That is Cahuilla's unspoken motto. Lincoln would have liked it.

WILL RIVERSIDE COUNTY ACCEPT CAT CANYON ROAD into the county road system?

Mr. W. C. Bertrand wrote to Mr. A.C. Keith, County Surveyor and Road Commissioner. Newsletter prints pertinent excerpts from his reply as they apply to Cahuilla Hills.

A road of residential character, having a reasonable number of homes, shall be accepted into the County Road System on the following condition within the limit of funds available.

1. That the right-of-way be of sufficient width, and granted free of cost to the County: (Tract patents specify easements for roads along the borders of property.)

2. That the adjoining property owners contribute 50% of the cost of improving the road to proper line and grade, gravelling where necessary, and installing culverts and drainage structures.

(Resolution of Board of Supervisors, Riverside County, Feb. 11, 1952.)

Mr. Keith writes to Mr. Bertrand, "In developing private property as a subdivision, the owner is required to develop the property by installing roads at his own expense. It does not seem proper that improvements of roads in the government subdivisions (5 acre tracts) should be made at the expense of the general tax payer. For this reason the County (Riverside) has not as yet built roads to specifically serve these tracts."

Newsletter is indebted to Mr. W.C. Bertrand for the above information. One mile of black top road, twenty-two feet (22') wide and three inches thick at seven cents per square foot would cost \$3603.60

This is not only completely impossible, as far as Cahuilla is concerned but many people would not want blacktop.

A good dirt road is needed in Cahuilla.

County care, if possible, would only be for Cat Canyon Road. What of the other roads, particularly Cholla Trail, which is used by most of the permanent residents.

Taxes would be increased, probably.

This information is presented as a basis for thought and discussion at the March 10 meeting.

The Road.

Mr. Cappellini	\$10.00	Jan. 5 (Short)	\$33.50
Hon. A. W. Hawkes	25.00		
	<u>\$35.00</u>		
			Bal. \$1.50

SOUTHWEST MUSEUM OF LOS ANGELES OBSERVES ITS FIFTIETH YEAR. This "Indian" museum is a treasure house where are Indian artifact and history for everyone from the child in third grade to the most erudite student of anthropology.

Southwest's collection of basketry is tremendous and embraces a large percentage of those produced by the cultures of western America.

The collection of antique Indian rugs is tremendous and embodies some of the most beautiful of the Navajo rugs.

The huge library contains practically all contemporary literature on Indian lore and much that is out of print and almost impossible to find elsewhere.

Librarian Ella Robinson is eager to help and exceedingly well informed.

Newsletter proudly takes this opportunity to wish continued success to this great institution.

NEW DWELLINGS IN CAHUILLA show a definite up-grading in quality.

Pumice block is preferred for the better houses, but there is some frame construction.

This up-grading of quality reverses an ordinary trend. Residents are aware that the ideal climate of Cahuilla makes it very acceptable for about nine months in the year.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

Twin Palms Lodge
(Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sturgeon)
Mrs. Jeannette Constantino
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Stoner
Mr. Vernon Short

RENEWALS

Palm Desert Pharmacy
Mr. Ed. Mullens
Art Fields Texaco Station
Valley Lumber Co.

Many subscriptions expire on February 20. It would be a help if subscribers sent in renewals before receiving a bill. Thank you.

THE SANDS OF THE DESERT GREW COLD.

The sands of the desert were freezing for a few days. The snow level quickly fell lower and lower on the mountains like the descent of a misty chiffon stage curtain. Sharp winds swept across the desert, producing a strange combination of flying sand and hail.

Even the floor of the desert experienced the kiss of huge snowflakes that disappeared as soon as they encountered the earth's warm touch.

"Looks like raisin pudding," Bob Waters was driving toward his magnificent Pinyon Crest. Only spots of brown emerged from the thick snow meringue that covered earth, shrubs and trees.

"That's the first time I heard of snow in Cahuilla," said Jack Murray.

"Ribbonwood had ten inches of snow," said Mr. Howell, "I enjoyed my electric blanket, but I kept my sleeping bag close by in case of a power failure."

"It really looked like White Christmas from my hotel room when I was in Palm Springs," said George Bowser.

"It was scrumptious," said Adah Brock, "Cherry Valley looked like a beautiful snow lake."

"Snowball, snowball," yelled Freddy as he made tracks and "angel's" on Maw's lawn in Glendale.

Allen showed his California bred children the technique of making a snow man.

"Romp on the grass, but be careful of the camellia bushes," said Maw. She carried an armload of worn sheets. Each bush was carefully wrapped in a white shroud.

"Why are you doing that?" asked Allen, "I thought shrubs were for decoration. Yours are covered in summer because its too hot. Now you cover them in winter, blossoms and all. Why?"

"I'm trying to save the camellia buds from freezing," said Maw, "I promised some of the ladies in the Palm Desert Woman's Club that I'd try to bring some camellias for decoration at their fashion show on February 21."

"Why doesn't Grampaw help? I always thought that the camellias belonged to him," said Fred, "he takes care of them."

"He does indeed," said Maw. "This morning he awoke early, saw the snow and hurried to the grove to see what happened to our lemons. If it went lower than twenty-seven degrees last night, our whole year's crop is ruined."

A few moments later, Cactus drove up the hill. The station wagon proudly wore a filmy cloak of snow like a young girl wearing her first communion veil. Cactus drove into the garage. He didn't move from the car.

"Grampaw," called Freddy, "are the lemons good or are they frozen?" His answer was a groan, "Call your daddy. Call grammaw. I can't get out of the car."

Maw and Allen were opening the car door before he finished speaking. They gently helped him to alight. He groaned at every move.

"What happened, dear?" Maw anxiously asked, "you were fine when you left the house this morning."

Cactus only moaned and grasped her arm.

"Is it the lemons? Are they all frozen?" asked Allen.

Cactus nodded, "yes," and gasped with pain as he climbed the single step that led into the house.

"Please don't worry," said Maw, "I don't care if we lose the whole crop. That doesn't mean the world is coming to an end."

"It's not the lemons," gasped Cactus. "I could hardly drive home. It was torture to sit in the car. My legs, my back and my arms hurt so much I can barely move."

Allen helped Cactus undress and get in bed.

Maw called the doctor's home in Beverly Hills. He was making calls. He was needed at the hospital. He would come as quickly as possible. While they were waiting for the doctor, Maw fussed and worried.

Cactus took his temperature at frequent intervals. It was normal. Then he decided to count his own pulse. "It's fast," he gasped, "I must have had a heart attack."

"Dad, you don't sit on your heart," said Allen gently.

Cactus tried to turn over. "I must be paralyzed," he groaned, "it hurts so much."

"I don't think it hurts at all when you're paralyzed, dear," Maw patted him tenderly to soothe his nerves.

After a long time of anxiety, the doctor came.

He examined his patient carefully. He touched the tender spots on Cactus' back, arms and legs.

"Have you taken any unusual exercise?" he finally asked.

"Nothing unusual," Cactus was calm, "Why? Do you think it's my heart?"
"H-m-m," mumbled the doctor. He gently touched the tender spots. Then he said, "Have you taken any exercise at all recently?"

"We-l-l," Cactus looked at Maw a bit fearfully, "I rode horseback this morning."

"Horseback?" asked Maw accusingly, "you haven't been on a horse since before we were married twenty-two years ago. Why did you decide to ride a horse today?"

Paw sat up in bed, his injured dignity forgetting his pain. "I wanted to see just how badly the crop was hurt by the freeze. It was easier to do it on horseback than trying to tramp the grove afoot."

"You think this is not unusual exercise?" The doctor began to put his instruments back in his bag.

"Certainly not, doctor. I owned my own horse in Chicago and rode in Lincoln Park every morning."

"Twenty-three years ago?"

"I'm sorry, doc. A fellow forgets about those muscles back there that are never used."

"Mr. Cactus, a doctor is always happy to learn that his patient isn't ill. I suggest a good rub with liniment. Maybe you'd like the horse liniment that some folks prefer."

Maw and Allen accompanied the doctor to the door.

Cactus started to struggle out of bed, when he noticed Freddy, huddled forlornly behind the closet door.

"Hi Freddy," said Cactus, sadly.

"Oh grampaw," Fred rushed to Cactus and threw his arms around him,

"Does it hurt awfully bad?"

Cactus noticed that the little boy trembled as if he were holding back the tears of sympathy.

"It hurts pretty badly, honey, but you and everybody else are so nice that I feel better already."

"Here grampaw, I'll help you put on your shoes."

"Nope, honey. When you start riding horses, you'll find that the way to get rid of your pains is to exercise all the muscles you can. I will put on my own shoes. Would you like to help me cover some more of Grammaw's camellia bushes so she can have some posies for the ladies to enjoy?"

"Are you sure your back doesn't hurt too much, grampaw?"

"It hurts, all right," Cactus tried to hide his groan as he leaned over to tie his shoe, "but sometimes an old man can act sillier than a three year old. Now when you do something foolish, just grit your teeth and bear the pain. Might remind you not to do the same stupid thing twice."

SNOW HAS DRIVEN THE WILDERNESS ANIMALS DOWN TO THE FLOOR OF THE DESERT. The sound of the coyotes is clear and close these cold nights. They are hungry and actually roam by day.

Strike, John Murray's little dog was attacked by a coyote during daylight. He escaped, but has several tooth marks, one of which is quite deep.

The one buck and two ewes of the bighorn sheep have had their company increased by two young ewes. They are exceedingly tame. It is to be hoped that they escape the sensation hunters.

Cactus thought he saw a bobcat in the gully, but is not sure. Hazel Waters saw a bobcat early in the season, so there could be one in the vicinity.

Small birds will take crumbs and might even like a small amount of suet.

The vegetation is already damp and fresh from the moisture. Many of the flowering bushes are showing color, notably the chuparosa and the sages.

The buckwheats seem to spring out of the earth like the warrior maidens of mythology. Yesterday's dead stick is today's green thrifty plant. The hillside wears a delicate green mustache that promises food for the hungry animals and a visual treat for human desert dwellers.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Mrs Robert (Peppy) Steen. We hope to see you in Cahuilla very soon.

The many friends of Vera Versell extend sympathy in her recent bereavement.

Mr. & Mrs. W. Bertrand have purchased a house in Palm Desert.

Mr. Harry Franklin, who has been too long away from the desert, spent a few days at Cahuilla recently.

Best wishes to Herman Henderson for a fast recovery. We miss you at the market, Herm.

Mr. & Mrs. Carol Le Jaunie are living in "The Values" on Hwy. 74.

Business Directory

AUTO CLUB--Texaco Station, Art Fields, Prop., Palm Desert
 BAKERY-Michel's. (Wholesale & Retail) Mr. & Mrs. George Michel
 BANK-Bank of America, Palm Desert Branch. M. Munier, Mgr.
 BEAUTY SHOP-Peggy's Beauty Shop. Mrs. Peggy Filer, Prop.
 BUILDER & CONTRACTOR-Eugene Smith
 BULLDOZER & ROAD SCRAPER-Benjamin Bancroft, Palm Desert
 CESSPOOL DIGGING-Martin & Pat Thornton, Cahuilla Hills
 CLEANING-Palm Desert Laundry, Mrs. Shirley Wall, Prop.
 CLUB-Shadow Mountain Club, Palm Desert
 DRESSES-Grace's Sport Shop. Mrs. R. Hume, Prop., Palm Desert.
 DRUG STORE-Palm Desert Pharmacy. Mr. Ed Mullens, Prop., Palm Desert
 ELECTRICITY-California Electric Power Co., Patio Bldg., Palm Desert
 FILLING STATIONS*Texaco Station, Art Fields, Prop.
 FIVE & TEN (Variety Store)-Patio 5 & 10, Mrs. Alice Parry White, Prop.
 FOUNTAIN LUNCH-Palm Desert Pharmacy
 FURNITURE, RUGS & DRAPES-Carpenter Furniture Co., Mrs. Ann Carpenter.
 GAS (PROPANE & BUTANE)-Gebbie & Kleibe, Palm Springs
 KEROSENE-Texaco Station
 GAS HAMMER-Wm. Bertrand, Cahuilla Hills.
 GIFTS-Carpenter Furniture Co.
 Grace's Sportswear Shop
 Palm Desert Pharmacy
 Patio 5 & 10
 GROCERY-Palm Desert Market. Mr. & Mrs. Wyn Andrews, Props.
 Palm Desert Liquor Store. Mr. & Mrs. S.A. Corson, Maj. Slater,
 HARDWARE-Valley Lumber Co. (Props.)
 HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES-Carpenter Furniture Store.
 HOTEL-Twin Palms Lodge. Mr. & Mrs. R. Sturgeon, Props.
 ICE-Texaco Station
 INSURANCE (Life & General) Allen Schaak, Connecticut Mutual Life
 Insurance Co.
 LABOR, DAY-Wm. Bertrand, Cahuilla Hills & Palm Desert.
 Martin & Pat Thornton, Cahuilla Hills.
 LAMPS (Electric) Carpenter's Furniture Co.
 (Butane) Gebbie & Kleibe
 (Kerosene) Valley Lumber Co.
 LANTERNS (Valley Lumber Co.)
 LAUNDRY-Palm Desert Laundry Co.
 LIBRARY (Public)-Palm Desert Library, Patio Bldg. Mrs. James, Librarian.
 LIQUOR*Palm Desert Liquor Store.
 LODGE-Twin Palms Lodge
 LUMBER-Valley Lumber Co.
 LUNCH & Breakfast-Mary Anne's Breakfast Nook, Mary Ann Wahrer, Prop.
 Matting-Bamboo & Sisal (for floors) Carpenter's Furniture Store
 MEATS-Palm Desert Market
 MUSEUMS-Southwest Museum, Los Angeles. (Indians).
 NEWS OF THE DESERT-Cahuilla Newsletter
 Palm Desert Newsletter
 NURSERY(Plants) Palm Desert Nursery, Floyd Scravanie, Prop.
 Todd's Nursery, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Todd, Props.
 PAINTING & PAPERHANGING-Earcel Ostler, Palm Desert
 PHYSICIAN-Dr. C.B. Alexander, M.D., Palm Desert
 PHARMACY-Palm Desert Pharmacy
 PUBLIC STENOGRAPHER-NOTARY-Mrs. Jeannette Constantino, The Center.
 TANKS (Water) B. & H. Tank Co., Los Angeles, Cal. (Delivery)
 TRAILER PARK-Trailer Villa, Mr. & Mrs. Jay C. Clark, Props.
 REAL ESTATE-Mr. & Mrs. Joe Cady, Cahuilla Hills.
 Davis-Baker Co., Mr. Robert Waters, Mgr., Palm Desert.
 Mr. Clay Stearns, Palm Desert
 WATER DELIVERY-Ben Bancroft, Palm Desert Cal.

Palm Desert is in the geographical center of the greatest desert resort area in the country. Golf clubs that are a tremendous attraction are making it the winter golf capital. Tennis is a great attraction. Polo playing fields are being developed and used. Desert Air enables the private plane owner to land and take-off at a convenient near-by field. Patronize your merchant. Help him grow and prosper. That enables him to raise his standards and maintain competitive prices.

Trailer Villa is increasing it's capacity, but seems unable to keep pace with the many trailers that are parked there. Pola Fillmore has returned to the Gift Shop at the Thunderbird Club. "Tournament players are serious when the game is on," says Pola, "but it is more fun to see them relaxed and carefree before the serious business of the tournament begins."

Many riders from Palm Desert Stables will ride in the Palm Springs parade on Saturday. The children's group plans to go to Indio for the Date Festival parade as well. Mr. Saund, new Congressman from this district, will be the grand marshall of the date parade. The Clarence Blacks spent some time at their cottage before the cold weather began.

Mr. & Mrs. Tom McGuire, Mr. & Mrs. Joe Cady and Mr. & Mrs. Morris Spievak and family were among the very few visitors who spent "Snow Sunday" in Cahuilla Hills.

Alice Muro arrived on the following Monday. The snow covered mountains were magnificent, but the temperature was cold, especially at night. Mid-morning sun was warm and very pleasant.

Ed Schaefer and Bob Waters visited Pinyon Crest before the storm when the overcast was not conducive to taking good photographs.

What a pity that Ed was not in the desert to "catch" some of the memorable scenes of the snowfall. Any snow in San Marino, Ed?

Letters from travelling Cahuillans and their friends: Fran Striker; "Acapulco is beautiful but cool. No swimming and little sun."

Louise Mayer from New York, "Terribly cold here, but fun. Central Park looks like an etching. We long for the sun in the desert."

Hazel Waters in Phoenix; "I love the cactus here. Wish I could take some home with me."

Catherine Peterson: "The cold weather is conditioning us for New York where we go on business." (Hi, Mr. C.C. Any spare bonds that you are giving away?)

Verna Abey writes from the Waldorf: "Do you really have that many humming birds on the desert or is this poetic license?" We not only have hummers, but mountain blue birds that are too blue to be believed, vireos, mourning doves, phainopeplas, and dozens more.

The birds winter in Cahuilla. Come out and see for yourself.

Sister Joyce; "They've got the same stars in Sicily as they have in Cahuilla. Orien was fine last night. The villages are slightly less chic than Palm Desert. The people hang their torn laundry out the windows." (This is the custom in all of Italy. Most amazing sight is Monte Cassino. American style apartment houses built with American dollars. Unsightly clothes lines defiantly snapping their ragged banners at the light yellow bricks.)

Brother Bob from Geneva Switzerland; "It will probably strike you as comical to hear that it is really cold here. This morning there was a substantial "couche" of snow on the streets and both the Alps and the Juras are magnificent under the sun." (Wonder if they are as majestic as Mt. San Gorgonio facing Mt. San Jacinto as route 99 sweeps through the pass.

Wish we could have millions of pictures of the "Teleferique" in each little village in Switzerland.

Mr. Frances Crocker of Palm Springs would appreciate them, for he has worked so long and so hard for a ski lift to the magnificent peaks that rise abruptly from the desert floor. Wouldn't it be wonderful if, somehow, it can at last be done?)

Hon. Albert W. Hawkes: "The plane trip to New York was a trying experience. Plan to take the train home." (Its too cold for all you people to be in New York. Come home where the snow melts almost as fast as it falls.)

From Marjie Thomas in San Francisco; "Billy is now on the Eversole, a United States destroyer which helped rescue 179 from a grounded liner off Duff Reef, about 175 miles northwest of Fiji early yesterday."

From Lucille Kelley: "We bought a little place in San Diego, but it won't be too long before we return to the desert."

Newsletter also received cards from Peggy Filer and Corinne Murray at Palm Desert, via Milan Italy.

•PALM DESERT NEWSLETTER

CAHUILLA NEWSLETTER

Published on the fifth and twentieth of the winter months at Palm Desert California.

News of the people of this community, and of the events of this community.

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